

Citizens Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes
January 23, 2008 McCloskey Conference Room 135, City Hall

Citizens Advisory Committee Minutes are transcribed in a summarized outline manner. Audio recordings from the meeting are available in the Planning Department for full reference.

Attendance

Citizens Advisory Committee: Chair Jack Baker (McDoel Gardens NA), Natalie Wrubel (League of Women Voters), Eve Corrigan (Citizen), Bill Hayden (Bloomington Bicycle Club), Jerry Stasny (Old Northeast NA), John Kehrberg (citizen), Buff Brown (Bloomington Transportation Options for People), Ted Miller (citizen), Elizabeth Cox-Ash (McDoel Gardens NA), and David Walter (6th and Ritter NA).

Others In Attendance: Sarah Ryterband (Prospect Hill NA), Steve Forrest (citizen), Jacqui Bauer (Environmental Commission), and Raymond Hess (MPO staff).

I. Call to Order (~6:30PM)

II. Election of Officers

Mr. Baker indicated he is willing to continue serving as Chair and Patrick Murray as Vice-Chair. There were no other nominations. Mr. Brown motioned and Ms. Corrigan seconded to suspend the bylaws which call for secret ballot elections. There was unanimous voice vote to retain Mr. Baker as Chair and Mr. Murray as Vice-Chair.

III. Approval of Minutes

The minutes from the November 28, 2007 meeting were accepted by the CAC with a minor correction.

IV. Communications from the Chair

Mr. Baker had no reports

V. Reports from the Officers and/or Committees

A. Citizens Guide to Transportation Planning

Mr. Hess distributed the finalized Citizens Guide to Transportation Planning. Recommendations were taken on where to distribute the flyer. The Committee thanked Ms. Wrubel and Ms. Corrigan for their work on the brochure.

VI. Reports from the MPO Staff

A. 1st Quarter FY 2008 Progress Report

Mr. Hess reviewed the 1st Quarter Progress Report. Mr. Miller asked about the status of the N. Dunn Street study to which Mr. Hess responded that this academic exercise being conducted by senior engineering students from the Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology is nearly 50% complete. Ms. Rytterband asked about the status of the W. 2nd St. feasibility study to which Mr. Hess replied that no work has been done on the project since the signals were re-timed late last fiscal year.

B. TIP FY 2008-2011 Amendments: SRTS & BT

Mr. Hess reported that on January 11th the Policy Committee amended the Transportation Improvement Program FY 2008-2011 to reflect recent grants awarded to local public agencies. Three amendments were made to reflect Safe Routes to School (SRTS) awards: City of Bloomington's infrastructure award in the amount of \$250,000 for improvements at Templeton Elementary; Richland Bean Blossom Community School Corporation's (RBBSC) infrastructure award in the amount of \$250,000 for improvements at the Edgewood campus; and Monroe County Community School Corporation's (MCCSC) non-infrastructure award in the amount of \$75,000 for education initiatives within MCCSC and RBBSC. Another amendment was made to reflect awards garnered by Bloomington Transit: \$200,000 in Job Access and Reverse Commute funds to extend operating hours of downtown fixed routes on weekdays; and \$25,000 in New Freedom funds to extend operating hours and coverage of BT Access.

C. Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) Development Update

Mr. Hess informed the Committee of the UPWP development timeline: transmittal to the State by May 15th; adoption by Policy Committee on May 9th; draft to INDOT by March 1st; draft to MPO Committees by late February. Mr. Brown suggested that Element #301 should be significantly revamped so that the Long Range Transportation Plan is more inclusive of all forms of transportation including transit and alternative transportation.

D. Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) FY 2009-2012 Development Update

Mr. Hess informed the Committee of the TIP development timeline: transmittal to State by April 15th; adoption by Policy Committee on April 11th; Public comment from the end of February to the end of March; draft to MPO Committees by late February; TIP Development subcommittee meeting February 5th at 1:30pm. Mr. Brown was critical of the TIP's project selection process and how it is often skewed towards infrastructure for automobiles. Mr. Hess replied that currently the process relies heavily on local public agencies since they provide local match and are the project implementers.

E. Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) Development Update

Mr. Hess reported that the MPO has begun development of ITS architecture. The aim of ITS, as mandated by legislation, is to integrate technology into transportation projects to improve safety and information gathering, and reduce congestion. Currently, MPO staff is meeting with stakeholders and entering the information gathered into a computer program which will help develop the architecture. MPO staff intends to have the plan adopted by June.

F. INDOT's E. 10th Street Project Update

Mr. Hess reported that INDOT Commissioner Browning agreed to take the project off of the March letting so that the University, the City, and INDOT could continue discussions about this project.



AGENDA ITEM II.A.
Bloomington/Monroe County Metropolitan Planning Organization
Citizens Advisory Committee

VI. Old Business

A. Complete Streets

Mr. Hess distributed and reviewed a draft Complete Streets Policy. The draft policy presented several different approaches to how such a policy could be implemented in the MPO. Mr. Hess suggested that projects would have to be deemed compliant with the Complete Streets Policy before they could be programmed in the TIP. Mr. Baker encouraged the CAC to review the draft as presented and come prepared to discuss it further at the next meeting. Ms. Ryterband stated the Mayor of Cincinnati is committed to inclusion of all forms of transportation in road design.

VIII. Communications from Committee Members

Ms. Corrigan voiced support for the speed reader signs on Hillside Dr. near Templeton Elementary. Mr. Hess informed the CAC that Senate Bill 308 is currently under consideration which would require vehicles to provide a 3 foot buffer when passing bicyclists.

IX. Upcoming Meetings

A. Technical Advisory Committees – January 25, 2008 at 6:30 p.m. (McCloskey Room)

B. Complete Streets Audio/Web Conference – January 30, 2008 at 4:00 p.m.
(McCloskey Room)

C. Citizens Advisory Committee – February 27, 2008 at 6:30 p.m. (McCloskey Room)

Adjournment (~8:00 PM)

*These minutes were _____ by the CAC at their regular meeting held on February 27, 2008.
(RCH 2/27/2008)*